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Docket No.: 12810-00181-US1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wolfram Stüer et al.

Application No.: TBA

(Based on PCT/EP2004/006646)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: METHOD FOR ISOLATING A

HOMOGENEOUS CATALYST CONTAINING

RHODIUM

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Art Unit: N/A

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.